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Mumbai: Deaths caused by diabetes up by 530% in five years, BP 33%

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MUMBAI: A sharp and consistent rise in deaths due to non-communicable diseases (NCDs), particularly diabetes and hypertension, is of concern. Praja Foundation's white paper has revealed that deaths caused by diabetes in the city rose by an exponential 530% while hypertension-linked fatalities increased by 33% between 2015 and 2020.

The death data for Mumbai, as published in the report, underlined that the burden of communicable diseases is on a decline while non-communicable diseases are now taking a heavy toll.

TB incidence, for instance has dropped 24% from 325 cases/lakh population to 248, while HIV incidence has dropped by 84%. Malaria and dengue burdens have dropped by 35% and 50% in six years. Communicable diseases have also all seen a 39-72% decline.

But diabetes, hypertension and resultant heart ailments have taken the spots of top killers. Praja CEO Milind Mhaske said Mumbai cannot meet the Sustainable Development Goals if NCDs continue to take a toll.

The goals, adopted in 2015, aim to reduce NCD mortality by a third by 2030, but deaths due to diabetes and hypertension have only swelled in Mumbai, he said. Dr Daksha Shah, joint ^{yoga} executive health officer of BMC, said a slew of measures is being undertaken to curb NCD deaths. "Primary health centres have been equipped to diagnose and treat patients closer to their homes. We have stocked the dispensaries with medicines to ensure continuity of treatment," she said. "In a first, centres have been started to strengthen preventive healthcare."

Link : <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/mumbai-deaths-caused-by-diabetes-up-by-530-in-five-years-bp-33/articleshow/92839831.cms>